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FBIS-0239/86  
17 July 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of African and Latin American Analysis

25X1 FROM: [REDACTED]

Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

25X1 SUBJECT: Your Memorandum, Information Gap on Haiti,  
19 June 1986 [REDACTED]

25X1 1. FBIS is also concerned about the continuing gap in coverage of Haitian open media. FBIS reception of Haitian radios is frustrated by the low power of Haitian transmitters, interference from other transmitters in Cuba and the United States, and an inadequate antenna array in our Key West Bureau. [REDACTED]

25X1 2. In a recent effort to improve reception of Haiti and the Caribbean in general, FBIS installed an experimental antenna at the Boca Chica Naval Air Station, Key West. Using this antenna, reception remains poor, but even in the worst period of summer reception FBIS should be able to pick up one or two Haitian newscasts on three to four nights per week. We expect most processable items will be from Radio Nationale and from the Catholic Church-run Radio Soleil, though occasional items may be monitorable from Radio Antilles Internationale. [REDACTED]

25X1 3. On 1 August Radio Marti will temporarily start transmitting from a site much closer to Key West, at which time the bureau will likely lose all reception of Radio Soleil. Taking advantage of the little time left, FBIS has started an experimental program of recording Haitian transmitters and phone-patching them to Washington, where program summaries will be prepared of any that are monitorable. (The FBIS bureau at Key West currently has no French capability.) We hope to be able to at least establish whether these transmitters contain items of interest to U.S. intelligence analysts. If so, we shall ask the Navy for permission to build a permanent antenna at Boca Chica. [REDACTED]

25X1 4. As program summaries become available, FBIS will share their contents with your analysts and with other Agency components expressing interest. Based on your comments and requirements, FBIS will then seek resources to start permanent Haitian services. [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

25X1 [REDACTED]

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